

LOUISIANA *Conservationist*

Third Quarter 1978



...comments

The law is the last result of human wisdom acting upon human experience for the benefit of the public.

—Samuel Johnson



J. BURTON ANGELLE, *Secretary*

There are many laws at both federal and state levels dealing with almost every aspect of conservation as we know it. There are laws designed to protect wildlife and fisheries resources from overharvesting. There are laws designed to enhance the environment in which those resources can be renewable from year to year, available to present and future generations.

Then, too, there are the basic game and fish laws we all know so well. They regulate the manner in which we can hunt and fish. They are necessary laws and we should be as familiar with them as we are with regulations and laws for driving automobiles or operating boats.

Often in the legislative process laws are enacted in the public interest that reflect the deepest concern of members of the State Legislature for the future wellbeing of the people. In some cases the public remains unaware of the longlasting benefits that will accrue from an act of the Legislature that had its future interest at heart.

Act 342 of the 1978 Legislature is certainly deserving of mention. Boiled down from the necessary legal terminology, it provides for the doubling of the Rockefeller Wildlife Trust and Protection Fund from \$5 million to \$10 million.

This represented an important forward step in assuring proper management of an important segment of Louisiana's wildlife resources in the years to come.

An important question might be: How does Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge contribute to the general wellbeing of the people of Louisiana? The answer is thought-provoking. Rockefeller Wildlife

Refuge is one of the finest refuges in the country, if not the finest. It is winter host to hundreds of thousands of migratory waterfowl and other birdlife.

It is the center of research on alligators, the annual harvest now being important to the economy of the state. Hopefully this alligator research will be the basis for opening additional areas of the state to alligator harvesting, bolstering the economy of other areas of Louisiana.

Fish pond research on Rockefeller, and marsh management practices that have been evolved contribute greatly to the economic stability of a segment of Louisiana's population dependent upon wildlife and fisheries resources for their livelihood.

But we should take a closer look at what this most recent act of the Legislature did. To best do this; let us roll back the calendar a few years to 1972 and 1973 when the Legislature established identical trust funds for Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge and Marsh Island Refuge. Those original trust funds, each in the amount of \$5 million dollars, were later followed in 1976 by creation of the State Wildlife Refuge and Game Preserve Fund.

There, then existed three trust funds to provide necessary money in the not too distant future to properly maintain those refuges, and their attendant research programs, in those days when revenues from the refuges will have been depleted.

It marked the beginning of saving for the proverbial rainy day, the day when non-renewable resources (minerals) will no longer exist on these lands.

From the standpoint of conservation, creation of those trust funds by the Louisiana Legislature with the leadership and support of Gov. Edwards and his administration marked one of most forward-thinking conservation actions ever taken at a state level.

Legislative action to double the Rockefeller fund this year again clearly demonstrated the wisdom and vision of those men who understand so well the importance of wildlife and fisheries resources to the people of Louisiana.

Fully aware that the spiraling climb of inflation gives no promise of leveling off, members of the Legislature further prepared Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge for a possible financial rainy day.

It is reasonable to hope that similar provision may be made for the other two refuge trust funds. It is never too soon to begin preparing for what seems almost certain in the future.

I am certain that those who are concerned with wildlife management in other states are keenly sensitive to the problem of proper financing of game and fish departments. They share a common problem: finding adequate revenue to provide expanded services for an ever-increasing number of people.

It is satisfying to those of us in Louisiana who take a close look at the significant legislation passed to assure proper management of those key wildlife refuges to know that consideration is being given to the future.

I am certain that thousands of citizens and sportsmen join with me in extending thanks to those farsighted legislators who have accomplished so much for the future of those important refuges.



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Louisiana Conservationist
Volume 30, No. 3
400 Royal St.
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130



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Chattanooga, Tennessee

Lithography by Century, New Orleans

The Louisiana Conservationist is a quarterly publication of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Department. Editorial offices are located in the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130. Freelance manuscripts and photography may be addressed to the editor, but the Conservationist assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to unsolicited material. Permission to reprint from this magazine is granted with proper credit. Form 3579 to be sent to Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries at the above address. Second class postage paid at New Orleans, Louisiana.

By Julia Murchison McSherry

Photography By Lloyd Poissenot



EVER CHASE A DEER INTO THE WOODS SO FAR YOU LOSE YOUR DIRECTION? EVER FIND YOURSELF THINKING YOU WERE WALKING IN CIRCLES—AND YOU WERE? WELL, THIS STORY DEALS WITH THOSE SITUATIONS AND ANSWERS THE AGE-OLD QUESTION. . .

Which Way Is Out?

It's a well-known fact to sportsmen that they're not going to find game and fish in heavily populated areas. But it's not always the easiest thing in the world to successfully arrive at those promising out-of-the-way spots... and what's more, getting home is often more difficult. The ability to use a compass and read a map in the field are necessary outdoor skills that not only save the outdoorsman from becoming lost but help make him self-reliant in all travelings afield or afloat.

Have you ever been caught in the woods with that trophy deer bagged and ready to be carried back to the truck when suddenly, in all the excitement, you realize, "Hey... which way is the truck?!" The anxiety attack which is sure to follow as you try to figure the quickest and easiest way

out with your heavy load could have been prevented had you taken a simple compass reading before you headed for the deerstand. Then you could easily backtrack and go out of the woods the exact way you came in, bypassing hours of walking in circles.

But, its not too late.

You could take a bearing of the exact location of your deer, head back to the truck to round up a friend, and return to your original deerstand with a hand to help you bring your prize kill out of the woods.

Ever been madly chasing squirrels through a dense canopy of the best-lookin' squirrel trees, bag your limit, prepare to walk out, then suddenly wonder, "Which way is 'out'?! Had you only known which way you had gone in, you would easily be able to determine the easiest way back to your starting point!

The list of situations continues. The fisherman stumbles upon the hotspot of a lifetime only to never be able to find it again on subsequent trips. The duck hunter is late getting to the blind because the direction he *assumed* was right was sixty degrees off to the east. In every case, much time and effort could be saved with the use of compass and map.

Ability to use these two tools is an excellent aid in exploring new territory to get to the best hunting ground or the best stocked lake. But others besides fishermen and hunters can benefit too. Campers, cross-country hikers, and scout groups can quickly and easily travel to off-the-trail camp sites. Vacationers can explore with confidence state and national parks. Canoeists can save travel time and distance through shortcuts and can explore out-of-the-way tributaries of main waterways.

Yet, there are many outdoorsmen who regularly venture out without the aid of compass and map. And many who do carry them do not know how to read them or do not realize their full potential.

Each hunting season, more people than care to admit are temporarily lost in the woods. Al Frierson, supervisor of Pearl River Wildlife Management Area in southeast Louisiana, says that almost every night during hunting season, he or one of his men must go in search of at least one missing hunter. Often, he complains, the lost party has a compass but doesn't know how to use it. To Frierson, it seems that hunters should be responsible enough to keep themselves from getting lost. "Nobody's gonna get lost if they'll just carry and know how to use a little ole dollar compass," he told me recently.

Would you go on a vacation without a road map? Then why go in the woods with only the attitude that "I think I can make my way out." Why not be sure. Learn how to rely on a compass and read a map. It's not that hard and a little extra effort can save you hours of time and anguish—and embarrassment. You should find that there is real satisfaction in mastering the art of using map and compass, in being able to prevent yourself from getting lost.

Outdoor lovers have long found a romantic fascination in being able to find their way, on their own, through wilderness or over hidden trails. The pioneering and exploring mystique appeals to almost every woodsman.

HOW TO READ A COMPASS

Historians estimate that as long ago as 2500 B.C., the Chinese discovered that a piece of a certain ore, floated on water on a piece of wood, would turn until one end pointed in the general direction from which the sun shone half way between sunrise and sunset (south). And if one end of the floating ore pointed south, the other end obviously pointed north. Out of this discovery emerged the compass needle, a strip of magnetized steel, balanced on a pin point, and free to swing in any direction. When left to itself this needle comes to rest with one end pointing north.

There are three main purposes of a compass: (1) finding directions or "bearings" from a particular location; (2) following a direction, or bearing, from one location to another; (3) returning to the point of origin.

In finding your way with a compass, there are a few cardinal rules to follow. First, know where you are on your map, if you are using one, or according to your knowledge of the layout of the area, and know the direction in which you are going according to your compass. This is called taking your bearings.

Next, be aware of declination. This is the term for the angle between true north (the North Pole) and magnetic north. This angle exists because the geology of our continent affects the magnetized compass needle. The angle varies from as much as 20 degrees west in Maine to 30 degrees east in parts of Alaska. Always check the compass declination in the bottom margin of your map and memorize the declination for your territory. In Louisiana, it averages between six and seven degrees east which is not too much to make a big difference. In some parts of the country, it is necessary to compensate for declination.



There are three main purposes of a compass—finding directions from a particular location, following a direction from one point to another, and returning to the point of origin. And for outdoorsmen, these are everyday essentials while trekking afield.

Lt. Mark Key, Chief of Boating Affairs Branch, Eighth Coast Guard District, and boy scout master who teaches compass reading, suggests the following tips to the outdoorsman interested in learning how to keep from getting lost:

Get a good map of the area to familiarize yourself with new territory. A little preparation before you go is the most important consideration.

Learn how to accurately read a compass. Study printed guides on orienteering and compass reading found in book stores, libraries, sporting goods stores, outdoor outfitters, and the directions that come with a compass or map when you buy it. Field practice is the best teacher.

Get a feel for your compass before you go out in the field and learn to trust it. Set up a trial course in your backyard and neighborhood. Orienteering games can be fun activities for the entire family. Who will find the hidden treasure first? Who will be the fastest to arrive at a particular point?

Plan ahead. When possible, set out a little trek on your map and plot a mini compass course.

Before you enter the woods, orient yourself. This means determine exactly which direction you are walking in. For instance, a squirrel hunter who walks in at 135 degrees (SE) knows by looking at his compass that to return to his original location, he must reverse this

direction and walk a line 315 degrees (NW) determined by adding (or in some cases subtracting) 180 degrees to the original bearing.

Check your compass every now and then in the field to make sure you're still on your intended course. Keep your sense of direction, that is, utilize your compass while you still know where you are. Don't wait until you are lost to check it or it will be too late to do you any good. It won't help you much to know where north is if you don't know which direction you came from. In other words, if you don't know where you came from, it's hard to get back there.

Keep track on your watch of the length of time it takes you to go in so you'll know how long to walk out. It is easy to lose all sense of time while stalking a deer or chasing a squirrel and not realize how many hours you walked away from your original point. By timing yourself, you can prevent the panic that results on the return trek when you estimate how far you walked in and think you should be out already, when in actuality you still have some distance to go. In this way, a watch can be very helpful in keeping you on course.

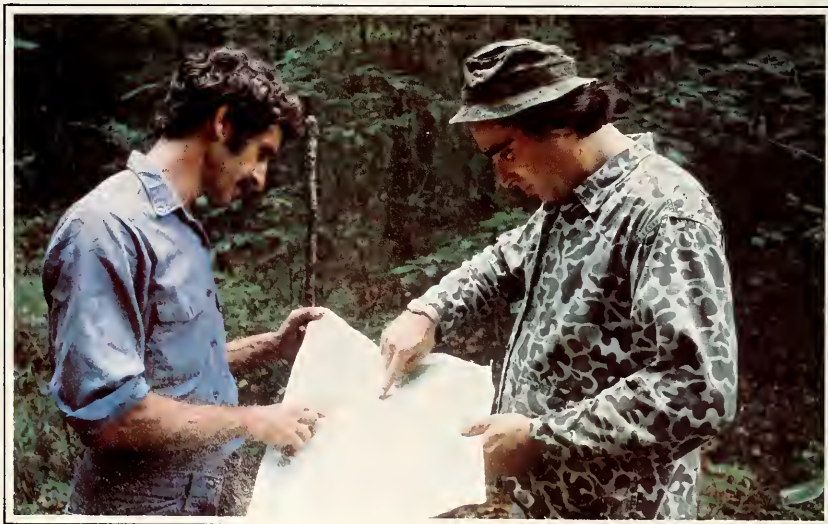
Knowing how to judge and measure distance accurately can be helpful when it comes to backtracking the exact same distance out of the woods as the route you came in.

Overcome obstacles such as sloughs or waterbodies impossible to walk through by making right angle turns around them. To insure that you stay on course, take compass readings off landmarks before each turn, or count your steps so that you walk the same distance in each direction. If you can see across or through an obstacle, the matter is even more simple: locate a prominent landmark on the other side, such as a large tree, walk to it around the obstacle, and take your next bearing from there.

When fishing in strange waters, try to pick out landmarks and mark them on your map with a compass bearing. This will help you find your way back if you later desire. Remember, what seems so familiar going in may look completely different upon return.

To prevent an incorrect reading, be careful not to place the compass too close to metal objects such as gun barrels, binoculars, cameras, watches, or beer cans as they will attract the magnetic needle.

The Louisiana Wildlife Department of Wildlife and Fisheries provides maps of each of its 36 wildlife management areas. They are available free of charge from any district office in Alexandria, Monroe, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Minden, Lake Charles, Ferriday, and Opelousas.





There are various types of compasses on the market. It isn't nearly so important to choose one as it is to learn to use one. . . properly!

A WORD ABOUT MAPS

A map is a reduced representation of a portion of the earth's surface. It has its own language of signs and symbols. The key to reading what looks like mass confusion is to learn the basic symbols. Generally, a map can tell you description, details, directions, distances, and designations.

Maps showing water and vegetation features, elevation, and man-made structures are very useful to outdoorsmen. A good map should also include roads, trails, rivers, canals, lakes or other waterbodies, railroads, powerlines, dams, bridges, and boundaries. A topographic map indicates these features and in addition, woods, mountains, hills, valleys, and plains.

Aside from highway maps, which are excellent for giving you an overview of the general area you plan to explore, there are several other types that are of particular interest to outdoorsmen.

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries provides maps of each of its 36 wildlife management areas, state-owned public hunting grounds. They are available, free of charge, from any wildlife and fisheries district office in Alexandria, Monroe, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lake Charles, Minden, Ferriday, and Opelousas. The department also has contour maps of 30 major Louisiana lakes.

The Office of State Parks in Baton Rouge supplies rough outline maps of twenty-five state parks in separate information brochures. They are available, free upon request, from P.O. Drawer 1111, Baton Rouge, LA 70821.

The U.S. Forest Service in Alexandria, Natchitoches, Pollock, Homer, and Winnfield has free maps of Kisatchie National Forest in central Louisiana.

Fishing maps for coastal lakes, bayous, bays, and estuaries, the Gulf of Mexico, plus the two largest freshwater fishing bodies, Toledo Bend and Atchafalaya Basin, can be obtained from numerous map companies and major sporting goods stores in southeast Louisiana. These maps show bayous, bays, canals, creeks, islands, lakes, lagoons, passes, points, rivers, and just about every nook and cranny. They also include dams and pipelines if they exist and in some cases boat launches and bait stand location. Some contain detailed indexes and water depth. There are three series of fishing maps, including a total of about 24.

These maps are not only invaluable in preventing fishermen from becoming lost while exploring unfamiliar waters, they can show the experienced reader where the fish are. . . or at least where they are likely to be, according to the presence of structure, location of inlets, and water depth.

Topographic maps or "topos" will serve you well when you're ready for a detailed rendition of a relatively small tract of land. These maps are available on the entire state which is divided into approximately 800 quadrangles. These sheets are available from the U.S. Geological Survey and can be obtained, for a small fee, by writing Map Distribution, Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225 for all locations west of the Mississippi River, and 1200 South Eads Street, Arlington, VA 22202 for all locations east of the river. Ask for the free Louisiana Index to Topography Maps and the brochure on how to read them. You might also check local map companies, sporting goods stores, and outdoor outfitters, as many of these specialty shops keep a good supply of topos in stock.

FINDING DIRECTIONS WITHOUT A COMPASS: NATURE'S SIGNS

Since the sun rises in the east and sets in the west, its location in the sky is always a reliable source of direction. For example, if you face the sun in the morning, you will be facing east; north is therefore to your left. If you face the sun after noon, you are facing west; north is to the right. If you find it difficult to tell, place a stick straight up in the ground; mark where the shadow end falls. The shadow will be on the side farthest from the sun so you can then determine which direction the sunlight is coming from.

At night, the North Star is one constant compass point that is more dependable than a compass needle because it always hangs near true north. It is easily seen (assuming it is a clear night) as the last star in the handle of the Little Dipper and in the straight line formed with the two pointer stars at the end of the Big Dipper. It often appears as the brightest star in the sky.

When lost without a compass on an overcast day or cloudy night, one good solution is to follow a river bank, ridge of hills, overgrown trail, cross-country wires, or pipeline because eventually they will probably lead you to a road or perhaps even a small settlement.

Learning the direction of prevailing winds in a particular area can be of some assistance in keeping you from getting lost in unfamiliar territory.

In woods which get a sufficient amount of sunlight, the moss will grow thicker on the north side of trees. In dense thickets, this does not hold true because moss will grow evenly around all sides. Some expert woodsmen are able to look at a tree and tell that the bark is thicker on the north side of many hardwoods. However, for the average sportsman this is not always easily discerned.

On fishing or canoe trips, when the current is too slow to tell which way the water is flowing, note the brush pileups which will generally occur on the north side of trees, logs, or other obstacles.

This outdoor lore is interesting and somewhat useful but not always helpful to casual woodsmen. Pathfinding is a much simpler matter with a good map, a dependable modern compass, and the ability to accurately utilize them. With a little practice, it's not that hard to become an expert and it can be fun. With map and compass for steady companions, the skill of finding your way through woods and water, over fields, marsh, and lakes, can become a time economizer, perhaps a life saver, and even an intriguing sport. 

And By LAW...

By McFadden Duffy



ACT 115

... Provides that the use of slat traps (wood baskets) and cans is legal in Plaquemines and Vernon Parishes. Effective September 8.

ACT 123

... Provides that the basic hunting license fee for nonresident hunters from Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas shall be the same as the fee charged Louisiana residents wishing to hunt in those states. This Act further provides that the big game license fee (necessary for deer, bear, and wild turkey) charged nonresident hunters from Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas shall be equal to the fee charged Louisiana residents wishing to hunt in those states. Effective June 22, 1978.

ACT 295

... Provides that no vessels rigged for double trawls, nor any Biloxi-type vessel single or double rigged, shall trawl in inside waters except in Breton Sound and Chaudet Sound, up to the outermost points of the mainland mass during open season. Double rigged or double trawls is defined as two trawls, each being not more than 50 feet in length along the cork line. Effective July 10, 1978.

ACT 326

... Provides that qualified and currently registered surveyors (Registered by the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors) can survey oyster leases under state laws and rules, regulations and policies of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, when authorized by the department secretary. Effective July 10, 1978.

ACT 328

... Provides that the taking of crabs with legal crab traps, crab pots, nets, and lines is legal in the Lake Catherine and Lake Pontchartrain Sanctuary, including the waters of Lake Catherine and its passes, the Rigolets, Ungnow Pass, and Chef Menteur. Effective July 10, 1978.

ACT 331

... Provides the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries with the authority to issue permits and establish rules and regulations, fees, permits, and tags for gear and equipment to persons interested in developing new fisheries, or the harvest of under-utilized species of fish and marine life. Effective September 8.

ACT 332

... Provides that no person shall take oysters, or shuck and pack oysters taken from natural reefs in state waters during the period beginning April 2 and ending the Tuesday after Labor Day. This Act also provides for hearings by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries between the dates of January 1 and April 1 of each year regarding closing of portions or all of the natural reefs, or imposing harvesting size limits. It also provides for notification of the oyster industry of regulations governing natural reefs. Effective September 8.

ACT 333

... Provide that all of Bradley Slough

(bayou) lying within the boundaries of St. Tammany Parish and that portion of Wilson Slough (bayou) in St. Tammany Parish be included within the Natural and Scenic Rivers system. Effective September 8.

ACT 342

... Provides authority for doubling the Rockefeller Wildlife Trust and Protection Fund from \$5 million to \$10 million.

ACT 367

... Provides that citations issued for failure to have one's boat registration certificate in possession be voided upon showing of such registration certificate to the issuing authority within ten days of issuance. Effective September 8. (Note: This law is applicable only when the citation is issued by a state enforcement officer.)

ACT 377

... Provides that the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall not issue certificates of registrations for boats or vessels without satisfactory proof that all sales taxes, including municipal, school board and/or parish sales taxes have been paid. This also applies to all boats brought into Louisiana, for which registration is sought. Effective date September 8.

ACT 386

... Provides mandatory fines and imprisonment for violations of oyster dredging regulations in Calcasieu Lake, and further provides for the confiscation of vessels and equipment, as well as revocation of licenses for second and subsequent offenders. Effective September 8.

ACT 387

... Provides that it is legal to take freshwater commercial fish with seines and hoop nets with a mesh of not less than one inch square or two inches stretched after treating with tar or copper, in the parishes of Assumption, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, St. Martin, Avoyelles, LaSalle, St. Mary, West Baton Rouge, and Livingston, including all boundary streams or rivers, and within the banks of the Black River forming the boundary between the parishes of Concordia and Catahoula, and within the banks of the Vermilion River where it forms a common boundary between the parishes of Lafayette and St. Martin. Effective September 8.

ACT 446

... provides that foxes and bobcats be protected quadrupeds and makes it unlawful to trap or kill foxes and bobcats except during the legal trapping season, but allows dog owners, handlers and trainers to run foxes and bobcats but prohibits killing of them; and prohibits the chasing of foxes and bobcats with dogs on wildlife management areas and refuges. Effective September 8.

ACT 448

... Provides the following daily creel limits for freshwater game fish: Largemouth and smallmouth bass, 15; white bass or barfish, 25; striped bass, 2; hybrid striped bass, 2; walleye, 2; crappie (sac-a-lait) 50; or 50 of all other species of

freshwater game fish; sunfishes (perch or bream) 100; buffalo under 16 inches and blue, channel and yellow catfish under 14 inches, in the aggregate, 25. A two day creel limit is allowed. Effective September 8.

ACT 541

... Provides for a combination basic hunting and fishing license, which will be issued beginning July 1, 1979. Cost of this combination hunting/fishing license to be the same as individual licenses for basic hunting and fishing licenses as now or hereafter provided by law. Effective July 1, 1979.

ACT 559

... Provides that the use of slat traps (wood baskets) and cans is legal on the river side of the Mississippi River levee in Tensas Parish, and in Catahoula and Concordia Parishes. Effective September 8.

ACT 574

... Provides that seines and hoop nets with a mesh of not less than one inch square or two inches stretched after treatment with tar or copper shall be legal within the banks of the Vermilion River where it forms a common boundary with Lafayette and St. Martin parishes, and within the banks of the Vermilion River in Lafayette Parish. Effective September 8.

ACT 575

... Provides for a special \$5 bow license necessary during the bow hunting season, with revenue to go to the Conservation Fund. Effective September 8.

ACT 590

... Provides that nonresident fin fishermen taking commercial fin fish or bait species for sale or exchange shall first obtain a nonresident commercial fin fishing license at a cost of \$1,000. Effective September 8.

ACT 665

... Provides that convicted violators of laws can be ordered to attend and participate in a firearm and hunter education program administered by or through the auspices of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Effective September 8.

ACT 662

... Provides that the annual fee for commercial crab traps for residents shall be \$25 and the nonresident fee shall be \$500, with the license allowed to use up to 200 traps, for which tags shall be issued by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Effective September 8.

ACT 744

... Provides that owners of motorboats requiring numbering must properly number their craft and a photostatic copy of the certificate of number must be kept available at all times for inspection on the motorboat for which issued. Effective September 8.

ACT 775

... Provides that possession of an outboard motor with serial number removed is illegal and provides a fine not in excess of \$250 for each violation. Effective September 8.

On Louisiana's four million acres of marsh land are about 10,220 camps used as away-from-home bases for exciting recreational activities, including hunting, boating, and fishing. This was a significant finding of a two-year marsh use study sponsored by the Louisiana Sea Grant Program.

Most camps of the coastal marsh are located near the state's larger southeastern cities. Sixty-four percent are adjacent to highways paralleled by power lines; the rest are isolated. Camps alongside highways have two important advantages over units isolated from roads. Camps of the former group are more convenient to get to and depart from, a fact especially appreciated in emergency-type circumstances. Power lines that may be tapped almost invariably parallel public roads ranging from arteries to the rural type. Power line electricity off of highways is a rare luxury in that it costs from \$25,000 to \$35,000 per mile to extend the wires into the marsh. Among the few exceptional isolated areas served by power line electricity are Bayou de Cade and Lake Fields, below and near Houma, and a few other marsh settlements near which principal electrical distribution power lines happen to pass. Isolated camps must use batteries or generators; these camps also have advantages. They usually are in the less congested and polluted areas, and their users are not so likely to be visited by unannounced guests.

Although the camp quality gamut runs from crude shack to marsh mansion, two broad types emerge, based on use: hunting and fishing camps. Hunting cabins are used mainly during the fall and winter hunting seasons and tend to be relatively ramshackle; they are located in inland fresh and brackish marsh areas that wintering waterfowl tend to prefer. In contrast, the extended family's sport fishing camps are used year-round and are generally more elaborate than the hunting units. Since gamefish and certain shellfish are found in almost all wetland habitats, fishing camps are located throughout the marsh. Several hundred barge-mounted camps can be used for saltwater angling toward the Gulf of Mexico during summer and brought to more inland sites for the hunting season.

All camps, whether plush or austere, or whether fishing- or hunting-oriented, have one thing in common: they exist for use and enjoyment of the marsh.

Mansions



At the village of Milneburg on Lake Pontchartrain's southern shore, the site of the Pontchartrain Amusement Park, New Orleansians built circa 1800 one of the earlier camp assemblages to appear in the coastal zone. The 19th and 20th century camp distribution was affected significantly by improvement of marsh accessibility. Before the 1920's and the motorboat's acceptance, permanent home-type dwellings were built in the marsh. Isolated from highways, these structures were bases of operation for trappers, hunters, fishermen, and others who lived off the land. However, with the advent of the motorboat, the necessity to reside near habitats of fish, furbearers and waterfowl was eliminated, and marsh occu-

pants resettled in town with highways and city amenities. Their former homes became the coastal marsh's first widespread camps.

By the 1950's marsh accessibility had increased through expansion of the highway and waterway networks. This then set the stage for the camp building boom of the 1960's, during which the average annual rate of increase was from 7 to 8 percent. The present pace of camp growth is only 2½ percent per year. Toward the latter half of the 1970's several factors had dampened recreational dwelling construction: camp site leases had become increasingly difficult to acquire, many areas that were favorable for camp development had become saturated with

By Don L. Gary and Donald W. Davis
Nicholls State University

in the Marsh



dwelling; several parish governments had enacted camp building moratoriums due to domestic waste disposal problems, accommodation of government building permitting procedures and Federal Insurance Administration standards for camp construction had become increasingly discouraging to potential builders; and rampant inflation had placed camp-oriented recreation beyond the reach of many people.

Marsh camp distribution is a consequence of longterm interaction between numerous biophysical and cultural factors. Many contrasts exist between camps and their uses on the chenier and deltaic plains—to the west and east, respectively, of Virginia Bay. The better drained camp sites on the

chenier plain tend to be on east-west trending chenier ridges; toward the deltaic plain, they are generally found along levees of north-south waterways. The chenier plain contains 17 percent of the camps, and most are along the coastal highway, the shore of Lake Calcasieu, and on the chenier ridges. The remaining 83 percent are on the larger, more populous deltaic plain. Notable camp concentrations in this region are at Cypremort Point, lower Terrebonne Parish, Grand Isle, the Chef-Menteur Highway, and Lake Pontchartrain's North Shore.

Marsh camps are vulnerable to the powerful weather systems that roar in from the Gulf. Audrey and later hurricanes have caused 698 deaths and

destroyed or damaged over 4,100 camps, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District.

Man's influence on camp distribution and marsh sports is reflected by, among other things, availability of camp sites, marsh highway and canal access, and government regulation and promotion of recreation. Louisiana's marsh lands are controlled primarily by approximately 50 large, private landowners; by the federal government, via wildlife refuges; and the state, through its wildlife management areas, refuges and parks.

Waterfowl hunting outside certain public wildlife refuge and management

annually on the seven state wildlife management areas of the coastal marsh. Hunting, fishing, boating, and swimming, all subject to special rules, have been allowed on them for over two decades. Since hunting is not permitted on the southeastern national wildlife refuges, the deltaic plain WMA's are by and large the only regional hunting sites available to thousands of hunters without entree' to land company leased sites.

The federal government, through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, controls in certain wetland areas structure building, including erection of camps, slips, bulkheads, and piers. The USACE requirements for a camp building permit include letters of no objection from several local and state government agencies, among which is the local Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. The department of wildlife and fisheries tries to protect the environment from negative impacts of dredge spoils disposal and to assure lawful disposal of domestic wastes in order to reduce contamination of oyster and other seafood areas.

The five main camp clusters, collectively with 36 percent of the total number of units, are at Hollywood Beach, Cocodrie, Grand Isle, Chef Menteur, and North Shore. All have highway access and are occupied mostly by sport fishermen.

At Holly Beach, dubbed "the poor man's paradise", users of almost 400 camps enjoy Gulf swimming, sport fishing and waterfowl hunting. Initially a hunting lodge site created in 1931, Holly Beach became known as the best waterfowl hunting area in the chenier plain. It made a rapid recovery from Hurricane Audrey's destruction of 100 percent of its structures in 1957 and Hurricane Carla's demolition of the local 660 foot fishing pier in 1961.

Friendliness is also a resource of the resort, where no one is ever turned down for chit-chat or information. Regional recreational highlights of the year that attract throngs of thousands to Holly Beach include the nearby Cameron community headquartered Fourth of July Fishing Rodeo and unique winter fur and wildlife festival.

Voters of Holly Beach's ward recently overwhelmingly approved taxes to provide the "paradise" with piped-in potable water. Thus, soon Holly Beach will have most of the city conveniences. Among the 60 permanent residents are folks who run commercial establishments that take in over \$1 million annually.

In lower Terrebonne Parish, along Bayou Petit Caillou, which served as the most significant route of travel to the famous Trade Wind Hotel of Isle Derniere on the Gulf coast, are the nearly 600 camps of the Cocodrie strip. Sportsmen fortunate enough to have access to waterfowl hunting leases in the vicinity shoot black duck, canvas-back and scaup. The highway south of Houma to Cocodrie was completed in 1938, and power line electricity came just after World War II. Nevertheless, only 60 percent of the structures have taken advantage of the service—perhaps an indication of the "back to nature" attitude of some camp users. Since 1976 a local modern marina has operated with many fishing and grocery supplies and boat docking services. Finfish anglers eagerly look forward to the several area fishing tournaments with prizes as fantastic as completely outfitted bass boats.

No marsh resort matches the lure and lore of Grand Isle. The pirate purlieu of yesteryear is heralded as "one of the world's 10 best fishing spots." With 1,353 camps on it and Cheniere Caminada to the west, the town of Grand Isle is THE recreation Mecca of the coastal marsh. With power line electricity, gas and water utilities, and garbage pickup, the haunt annually attracts hundreds of thousands of pleasure seekers. In addition to inland, surf and offshore oil platform fishing, sportsmen pursue camping, swimming, water skiing, skin diving, and simple relaxation. The annual summer Tarpon Rodeo, the oldest fishing tournament in the United States, dating back to 1928, plus the public East End State Park with restrooms, potable water and shower comforts are among the bigger attractions of Lafitte's lair. Almost half a million visitors annually use this park's facilities.

The Chef Menteur and North Shore areas provide easily accessible recreational retreats for New Orleanians. Both are within 20 or so miles of the city, and, as with all high-density camp areas, water-related sports are the more significant. Almost 900 camps are along the Chef Highway on St. Catherine's Island. Fort Pike and Macomb Park are at the northern and southern extremes of the 9.1 mile long tract, which has served recreational interests for over 150 years. The New Orleans States-Item reports that a local club was the region's premier rod and gun rendezvous in the early 1800's. By 1930, U.S. Highway 90 was completed north to Fort Pike, and it opened up the area

for extensive camp development. Like those of Lakes Arthur and Calcasieu, Cypremont Point and North Shore, the Chef's camps have fishing piers.

With over 400 structures, North Shore is the most important marsh camp site on Lake Pontchartrain's shore; the highway between it and new Orleans dates back to 1938. Its eastern section has piling-supported camps paralleling a broken stretch of retreating marsh. These camps are accessible now only by wooden, piling-supported foot paths. Nevertheless, North Shores weekend and summer fishing and boating opportunities for thousands of New Orleanians are limited only by the weather because nearly everyone has a boat or fishing pier or use of someone else's. North Shore is distinguished by a "florida-type" development that features over two miles of waterfront camp sites adjoining six shallow-water canals.

So even after all these years, camp-based recreation in the coastal zone, despite obstacles to camp expansion, undoubtedly will continue to be a significant source of enjoyment for scores of thousands of sportsmen.



The five main camp clusters are at Hollywood Beach, Cocodrie, Grand Isle, Chef Menteur, and North Shore. All have highway access and are occupied by sports fishermen.

There's nothing unusual about a guy who loves dogs. Most folks do. The thing that makes Ernest H. Hart different from most dog fanciers is he gets carried away by dogs in general, not just a special dog that earned its salt by being best in a show. Or a dog that nailed down a covey of birds under conditions that made the feat appear improbable.

The artist-author who now calls Clearwater, Florida, home and does much of his painting and writing there is equally at home in many other countries around the world. He has traveled extensively in Canada, Africa, South America, Australia, Europe and most of the United States.

At one time he lived in Spain and, in addition to his home in Florida, Hart also maintains a home in Bogota, Columbia. When his schedule permits, he'll pack typewriter and paints to board a jet for Bogota where nights are always cool, orchids grow wild, and the coffee is hawked as the world's finest.

In the past few years Ernest Hart has served as a judge in many international dog shows. He is one of the few persons in the United States who holds an AKC (American Kennel Club) license to judge German Shepherds.

Normally, being accepted as a judge in international dog shows calls for considerable testing with questions coming from the authoritative books available. Hart's tests were waived. He wrote the books.

He is the author of 18 volumes on dogs, other animals, and pets in general. His latest book, "Living With Pets," was published by Vanguard Press and is doing well in world shops.

Hart was in New Orleans a few months ago in connection with a showing at Adler's of "Sporting Dogs," a series of six dog portraits commissioned by the Nature Society in Griggsville, Illinois. The society is America's largest distributor of wildlife and related art.

He is rightfully proud of the six prints. They include English pointers, English setters, German shorthaired pointers, Gordon and Irish setters, Springer spaniels, and yellow and black Labradors.

Hart's career as artist, author, educator, dog show judge, and animal trainer is filled with accomplishments, but it is only in the last year that fine prints of his dog paintings have been made available to collectors through the Nature Society. This in itself is difficult to understand at first, because for four decades Ernest Hart has been an important artist in the world of animals. His name is familiar with most

The Dog Man

By McFadden Duffey

people who are interested in dogs.

Shying away from public acclaim as a master of two forms of art—painting and writing—Hart sidesteps interrogation about his career with a friendly smile and a sincere question:

"Tell me about your favorite dog."

Even inarticulate folks have little difficulty in warming up to someone who is downright interested in their dogs—which Hart is.

We know, because we had little difficulty in telling him about *Trouble*, *Sheriff*, *October*, and a few other dogs that had helped educate us through the years before they moved on to that great canine Valhalla, hastened there by heartworms, automobiles, and scud-ding dog years.

Only after lengthy general conversations about dogs, with Hart filling in gaps with comments that are cordial, casual, but authoritative and helpful, is he willing to answer some questions about himself.

Colleagues say Hart has an impressive set of credentials. The artist is a native of New York and a product of the prestigious Art Students League of New York. He has studied with Thomas Hart Benton, Homer Boss, Bridgeman, Nicolaides, Kuniyoshi, von Schlegel, and Grosz.



**Ernest H. Hart. . .
artist, author,
educator, animal
trainer, dog show
judge, and
recognized canine
authority.**

He is well known as an illustrator, having done books and magazines for the major publishers, including Doubleday, Coward-McCann, Little, Brown and Co., McBride, Grosset and Dunlap, Dodd-Mead, Vanguard, Popular Science Publishing Company, TFH Publications, and Carlton Publications.

He has also served as managing editor or art director for several of those publishing firms.

Hart spent six months in 1976 painting one of the most extraordinary pieces of art ever dedicated to dogs—a 25'x6' mural showing the history of dog and man. It is in the recently completed New Haven Central Hospital for Veterinary Medicine in Connecticut.

Critics say some of his paintings are brilliant and exciting representational studies; others are said to be intriguing masterpieces of abstract expressions.

His works have been exhibited in countless galleries, including the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Rockefeller Center Contemporary Art Exhibition, Associated American Artists Gallery, Contemporary Artists Traveling show, El Grifo Blanco in Bogota, and many others.

Although he is recognized around the world as an authority on dogs, a distinguished contemporary painter,

and an author with a substantial list of credits, Hart likes to give the impression that he was actually forced into becoming a writer.

"When I was just getting my feet on the ground as an illustrator," he told me one morning, "I found myself in a heck of a jam. I had filled a contract to illustrate a book. I'd finished the illustrations but the writer failed to deliver the text. It was a book on dogs and I knew the subject matter inside out, having studied dogs and worked with them all my life. There was nothing else for me to do. I wanted to see my illustrations published. I bought a typewriter and wrote the book to go with my art. The publishers liked it."

His eyes are smiling as he tells that little story. His voice is modest when he comments that the publishers liked it.

That the publishers liked what came in book form as well as his illustrations is a matter of record. Among his 18 hardcover books in the dog and pet field is the Encyclopedia of Dogs. Book number 19, on which he is now working, will be completed next year. It will be on the cats of the world, from tigers to toms.

When it comes to the history of dogs—genetics—Hart is a ready storehouse of information. The same tho-



rough knowledge of just how and why the various breeds of dogs were evolved, how they serve man, and the place of dogs in the scheme of things that led to his unusual mural in New Haven come pouring out.

Dogs have been around as long as man. The deep affection men and dogs show for each other is not relatively new. It dates back to prehistoric times when dogs helped man when he first began to hunt.

Throughout the centuries that have slipped by since man first added animal flesh to his diet, dogs have served him well. They have been hunters, herders, messengers, guards, nursemaids, and staunch companions since the beginning of recorded history.

This closeness of dogs and mankind is portrayed in the mural that Hart did in Connecticut. And one readily recognizes this relationship between dog and man as any conversation with Hart progresses.

It's little wonder then that Hart is also a dog trainer. The German Shepherd is a favorite dog perhaps. At least he owns and trains German Shepherds and talks, almost excitedly, about their intelligence, adaptability, stamina, versatility, and the ways they serve man.

It is only natural that he talks excitedly but softly about the manner in which dogs serve man. Hunters well know the value of their dogs and can easily understand why Hart took such pains to make certain his paintings of sporting dogs showed the details of proper breeding that make them efficient in the tasks afield.

For Hart, each breed of sporting dog has its place in the general practice of hunting. There are dogs that were developed for their ability to wind and point game and game birds; others were bred and trained to flush game; and still others to retrieve game and game birds. Each breed has its place.

All hunters have their preferences.

This pleases Hart who looks upon all dogs as highly developed partners for man. He considers sporting dogs as we know them today to be the culmination of centuries of training—present products of a relationship that began centuries ago when man first ventured from his caves, accompanied by his dogs, to hunt.

Hart feels today that sporting dogs first learned that in helping man to hunt they would be rewarded with kindness and companionship.

"To see a highly trained bird dog casting for scent as it searches for game, or to watch a retriever leap into near-freezing water to fetch game is to experience something that had its beginning centuries ago," Hart says.

"It is not new, but it is always fascinating to behold," he says with a knowing nod of his head. "It's no wonder that hunters think so highly of their dogs."

"To see a highly trained bird dog casting for scent as it searches for game, or to watch a retriever leap into near-freezing water to fetch a bird is a experience something that had its beginning centuries ago."—Hart

Hart will gladly rap with a person by the hour on what makes a squirrel dog particularly like to hunt squirrels, or why some dogs are best for finding game and others best for retrieving it. It settles down to a companionable interview and exchange. Simply put, he likes dogs.

Now that "Sporting Dogs" is available to hunters and dog lovers, what does Hart have in mind? The answer is something that will please dog owners all over the world. He is going to do a series of portraits of the "Working Dogs."

His eyes light up when he talks about what is yet to come. In describing this project he talks quickly about the Siberian husky, developed to pull sleds; the Shepherds to tend herds; the

Saint Bernards developed to patrol snow covered regions in the Swiss Alps; and the many less familiar breeds that have served, and do serve, man.

It's an ambitious undertaking and the series will include a lot of dogs... but Hart has the drive, the touch, and the knowledge.

I guess the best compliment bestowed on Hart came as a sort of accident. After interviewing him I tried to reach him the following day on the telephone. The explanation of who I was trying to reach wasn't complicated but it took on a particular twist.

"Oh, you mean the dog man," the voice responded.

It became so simple then. "Yes, the dog man," I said.

He had taken a jet. 



The Ten at the TOP

On these pages are some of the finest fish stories ever told. . . and they're all true! These are the Louisiana Record Fish, known by sportsmen as the "Top Ten." Every year, when the records are published, there is probably some fisherman in the state who realizes that if he had only taken the trouble to register his catch, his name would be here for everyone to see. Or even more tantalizing, since some of the categories don't have the ten places filled, just registering a fish will qualify it for listing in this elite group. There are only ten spots open and any new record means someone's catch drops off into anonymity. A record becomes official only after a Louisiana Outdoor Writers' Association affidavit is completed and mailed to Dan Hardesty, sports editor of the Baton Rouge State-Times, who is the official tabulator. Forms for entering a prize fish may be obtained by writing the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Information Section, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130.

By Dan Hardesty

FRESHWATER SPECIES

BOWFIN

20-8	Brian Fant	April 1976
18-15	Hollis E. Moore	April 1976
17-0	Julius E. Aaron	Feb. 1973
17-0	K. R. McCullough	May 1976
16-8	Ike Dunlap	May 1974
16-8	Mark King	Aug. 1976
16-1	Francis J. Gautreau	Nov. 1975
14-12	Mary T. Boose	April 1975
13-8	Raymond H. Callaway	Sept. 1974
13-8	Surgin Adams, Jr.	May 1976

BREAM

2-8	Grant M. Kelly	1959
2-5	J. W. Parker, Jr.	June 1961
2-5	Lloyd G. Hoover	April 1970
2-4	J. W. Parker, Jr.	May 1960
2-4	Tommy Frazier	April 1974
2-3	Joe Hudson	June 1973
2-2	Otis Marshall	May 1966
2-2	Henry C. Shaw	June 1978
2-1	Dee Murphy	April 1957
2-1	Kent Hollenshead	June 1976

BUFFALO

52-0	Tommy Descant	July 1976
48-8	Victor Zagone, Jr.	Feb. 1971
40-0	Ray Rhymes, Jr.	July 1975
26-4	Arnold Watson	May 1974
26-0	V. Bonny Collura	July 1976
24-0	Robert Prator	Aug. 1973

CARP

33-0	James E. Strange	May 1978
27-0	Edgar Coltharp, Sr.	June 1975
15-4	G. Morgan Ford	April 1976
15-0	Edgar Coltharp, Sr.	June 1975

CATFISH

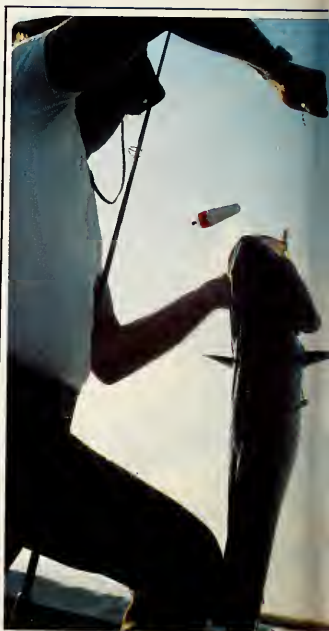
62-0	James W. Hibben	March 1970
52-3	Darrell J. Farris	Jan. 1970
52-0	James W. Hibben	Jan. 1970
46-0	E. F. Witteberg	June 1966
43-0	Milton Blackwell	Aug. 1975
40-8	Warren Babin	March 1978
33-8	Lucien A. Robert	June 1975
29-8	Rodney Verzwylt	Jan. 1978
29-0	Gerald Griggs	May 1978
25-9	James D. McGovern Jr.	Jan. 1969

CHAIN PICKEREL

5-12	Chris H. Marlen	May 1977
5-9	Edward R. Nelson	Nov. 1976
5-9	George C. Wallace	March 1977
5-4	Ross F. Miller	Aug. 1976
5-4	Walter Nutter	Oct. 1976
4-8	Anthony E. Hough	Feb. 1976
4-7	Tommy Harris	May 1976
4-6	Kenneth Ray McCullough	May 1977
4-5	A. L. Setzer	Jan. 1977
4-3	Bob Leavins	Feb. 1976

CRAPPIE

6-0	Lettie Robertson	Nov. 1969
4-4	Welzie Garrett	April 1950
4-0	Ronald P. Cobbs	June 1971
3-14	Pat Cullen	March 1960
3-13	Nellie Keller	Feb. 1964
3-12	L. M. Owens	Feb. 1973
3-8	Robert L. Nelson	Feb. 1971
3-6	William D. Temple	Feb. 1974
3-5	Burnette P. Juneau	March 1978
3-3	E. Lawrence Klein	April 1968



LARGEMOUTH BASS

Harold C. Ounaway
Jack O'Connor
Elwin Husser
Jake J. Crater
Richard R. Brasher, Jr.
Zeke Davis
James Strickland
John T. Allen, II
Robert Berry
Oudley R. Pitt, Sr.

Feb. 1975
April 1972
Nov. 1958
May 1971
Feb. 1976
March 1962
Jan. 1974
May 1973
March 1969
Nov. 1972

LARGEMOUTH BASS (caught on fly rod)

Nesbitt W. Hagood, III
Dr. James W. Lorio
Rene J. Russo
Gordon L. King, Sr.
Shelby Bordon
J. S. Drew
Daniel C. Mestayer
Marcel A. Chauvin
Or. James W. Lorio
Daniel C. Mestayer

April 1971
Dec. 1975
April 1976
Oct. 1965
March 1975
June 1962
March 1976
Feb. 1974
Sept. 1974
March 1976

REOFIN PICKEREL

Keith W. Henderson, Sr.

Nov. 1974

SPOTTED BASS

Harold C. Ounaway
Jack O'Connor
Elwin Husser
Jake J. Crater
Richard R. Brasher, Jr.
Zeke Davis
James Strickland
John T. Allen, II
Robert Berry
Dudley R. Pitt, Sr.

Feb. 1975
April 1972
Nov. 1958
May 1971
Feb. 1976
March 1962
Jan. 1974
May 1973
March 1969
Nov. 1962

STRIPED BASS

Paul Blanchet
James Teasley
Robert Andries
Max A. Shaw
Dennis O. Boyett, Jr.
Jerry Bennett
Dan W. Condon
Wimpy Thiels
Herman W. Holt, Sr.
Donnie Mann

Jan. 1978
March 1977
March 1976
March 1976
March 1975
March 1975
March 1975
April 1975
April 1975
April 1975

WARMOUTH

Allen Polk
Glenn R. Battle
Lloyd David Sexton
Mickey Montalbano
Or. James W. Lorio
Leonard Gremillion, Jr.
John J. Guarisco
Or. James W. Lorio
Or. James W. Lorio
Charles Lea

Sept. 1973
June 1971
July 1975
April 1976
Aug. 1973
April 1974
June 1976
Aug. 1971
Sept. 1973
May 1974

WHITE BASS

Sam Parrish
Linus Beard
C. L. Teel
Mrs. Ouida Glynn Geter
Lawrence J. Willse, Jr.
Dan C. Mestayer
Mrs. Ouida Glynn Geter
Todd Palmisano
John A. Schexnayder
Pattie DiMattia

Feb. 1969
Feb. 1978
May 1978
April 1976
Jan. 1977
Dec. 1977
April 1976
Oct. 1974
Oct. 1975
Dec. 1975

ATLANTIC CROAKER

Douglas J. Bernard
Eugene Lefort, Jr.
Eugene Lefort, Jr.
Melvin Backes
Lloyd J. Babine
William Sparacello
Joseph O. Toups, Jr.
Judge Alvin Oser
Eugene Lefort, Jr.
Eugene Lefort, Jr.

Aug. 1972
Aug. 1970
Oct. 1970
Feb. 1978
Oct. 1969
Aug. 1972
1966
Aug. 1973
Oct. 1970
Oct. 1970

SALTWATER SPECIES

AFRICAN POMPAPO

Harold Moreaux
John Beyt III
Clyde H. Martin
Jeff Patout
Dr. Darryl Elias
Joseph S. Cronan
Beau I. Greenwald
Bill Hodges
Dr. Darryl Elias
Harry H. Anderson

Nov. 1975
Sept. 1977
Sept. 1975
Nov. 1975
Oct. 1977
Oct. 1977
Sept. 1975
Oct. 1975
Sept. 1977
Aug. 1975

AMBERJACK

Mike Lane
Milton J. Mouton
Perry Elin Pitre
Dr. Dennis R. Miers
Sonny Dursio
Frank Ecker
Dr. Dennis R. Miers
Michael Foti
Dr. John B. Wright
George Tucker

April 1977
Aug. 1975
June 1976
June 1978
July 1974
July 1969
June 1978
June 1978
June 1977
July 1959

BARRACUDA

A.C. Mills
Dr. Thomas F. Kramer
Lester L. Jay
Jep. E. Turner, Jr.
C.W. Gladney, Jr.
Bob Marino
Harry Barbay
J.J. Jones
Arthur Hosli
Santford B. Oooley

Aug. 1970
Oct. 1975
Aug. 1972
Sept. 1968
Aug. 1977
July 1972
July 1976
Sept. 1966
Oct. 1971
June 1974

BLACKFIN TUNA

James D. Busby
Louis F. Vallee
Don Latil Jr.
Gerald J. Link
Mrs. Adelia L. Robichaux
Marion Tucker
Richard Legnon
Michael X. St. Martin
Richard Braud
Marvin Heebe

July 1977
June 1978
May 1978
Sept. 1976
Nov. 1971
May 1978
May 1977
Oct. 1974
Oct. 1974
June 1978

BLACK JACK

Dr. John Tassin

July 1977



BLUEFIN TUNA

859-0	Jack A. Brown
834-0	Arnold Boudreaux
831-12	Roy V. Eskine
826-0	Dr. John Melton
665-0	Steve Edgett
580-0	Jack A. Brown
526-4	Jack Kimmerly
512-8	John D. Charbonnet
440-0	Jim Meriwether
120-0	Pete Menafee

BLUEFISH

16-8	Leon Kolmalster
16-4	Joseph Steverson
14-12	Mrs. Dorothy Lane
13-8	Gary Oberg
12-15	Joseph C. Schouest, Sr.
12-15	Tim Sebastian
12-14	Murphy J. Foster, III
12-14	Eugene C. Kwiatkowski
12-12	Mrs. Dorothy Turczyn
12-10	Capt. Bob Davis

BLUE MARLIN

1018-8	Linda Koerner
686-0	Alvin E. DuVernay Jr.
613-9	Noonie Guilbeau
612-0	John C. Boyce
572-0	Guy C. Bilups, Jr.
565-12	Jeanne de Barillas
565-0	Al R. Childress, Jr.
557-0	J. Harman Chandler
552-4	R.J. Careere, Jr.
537-4	Pio Lyons

BONITO

29-12	Sidney Gonsoulin
26-8	Al "Teppy" Daboval Jr.
24-12	Joseph W. Gex
24-9	Stirling Couch
24-8	Erin M. Burks
24-5	Jill Bertucci
23-0	Charles Andres III
20-0	Mrs. Lester Plaisance
19-8	John Duffy Jr.
18-0	Mark Landrieu

BROADBIL SWORDFISH

12-8	Geo. M. Snellings, III
59-8	Lawrence A. Durant

COBIA

96-0	Charlie Hardison
83-0	Louis "Boo" LeBlanc
82-12	Alphonse S. Hebert St.
82-8	Harry Morris
82-0	Houston Foret
80-4	J. Edward Slatten Jr.
80-0	Dr. James C. Brousseau
80-0	Donald W. White
80-0	Dr. John L. Boyt
79-3	Glenn Aycock

DOLPHIN

71-4	Robert Prest IV
62-8	Mike Pratt
60-12	Henry F. Page
59-12	Stuart W. Wilson
56-12	Wayne Plaisance
56-3	David Brenham
54-12	Maumus F. Claverie Jr.
54-0	August Perez Jr.
53-8	Clyde V. Hawk
53-8	Salvatore Perino

June 1971	77-0 Timmy Joseph Dorcey
May 1977	61-15 Walton J. Theriot
May 1972	58-3 Laddie Portier
June 1976	56-9 Davis Doucet
May 1975	55-4 Dick Trossclair
June 1971	54-8 Richard Ledet Sr.
May 1975	53-5 Wilson Domangue Jr.
May 1971	53-4 Ray Pitre Jr.
May 1963	51-0 Steven R. Prentice
July 1966	50-10 Davis Doucet

Sept. 1971	12-2 Clarence Craig
March 1971	11-1 Clarence Craig
July 1972	11-0 Lee W. Coulon
Aug. 1974	11-0 George E. Stevens
Sept. 1975	11-0 Henry Schomaker
Oct. 1976	10-12 Mrs. Joseph Fousse Jr.
Aug. 1973	10-0 Richard J. Boll Jr.
March 1975	10-0 Mrs. Joseph Hebert
March 1976	9-12 F.D. Laney Eaves
April 1975	9-5 Dr. James E. Brown

July 1977	19-0 Tim Pitre
Aug. 1969	17-12 Dr. John Tassin
July 1976	17-4 Rhett Pitre
July 1976	14-11 Amos V. Meack
Aug. 1974	12-10 Dr. John Tassin
July 1972	
Aug. 1966	
July 1973	
Aug. 1973	
July 1974	

July 1974	44-8 Jeffery Blaine Lea
July 1973	44-0 Dean S. Beard
June 1970	43-0 Christian J. Smits
July 1949	41-14 Elmo Robichaux Sr.
Aug. 1971	41-0 Joseph M. Roth
Aug. 1976	41-0 Eddie Denny
July 1949	40-8 George Bertucci
July 1959	40-8 Ralph Bourg
Aug. 1977	40-5 George Huber
July 1974	40-0 Edwin F. Stacy, Jr.

July 1969	72-0 A. Roger Lee Jr.
July 1977	71-0 Frank J. Mohre
	70-4 Clifton E. King
	70-4 Chad D. Jordan
	70-0 Woody Crews
	69-13 Paul Wiggins
	69-6 Bill Golden
	68-8 Edward C. Beshoner Sr.
	68-8 Paul J. Tregre
	68-6 O.R. Payne

June 1973	400-0 Jules E. Guglielmo Sr.
May 1978	365-8 Marvin G. Heebe
Nov. 1967	358-8 O.R. Payne
May 1966	280-0 Leander H. Perez Jr.
April 1977	268-0 Mrs. Alma L. Burks
May 1976	265-8 Richard Landry
May 1973	261-0 H.L. Hurff Jr.
June 1976	259-8 J.W. Duffy
June 1973	190-0 Dr. M.E. Briere
June 1969	186-0 Dr. Wilson P. Couch
June 1968	
June 1976	
July 1973	
July 1966	
June 1967	
July 1968	

DRUM

FLOUNDER

HORSE EYE JACKFISH

JACK CREVALL

KING MACKEREL

MAKO SHARK

April 1975	8-8 Buddy Pons
June 1974	6-13 Hugh R. Babylon
Aug. 1974	6-10 Clement Andollina
July 1974	6-8 U.S. Allen
April 1974	6-4 Felix C. Byxbe
May 1975	6-4 Lamar J. Callaway
June 1978	6-3 Louis U. Thornton
May 1975	5-12 Cecil Jones
July 1977	5-12 Holt H. Fastring
May 1976	5-9 H.H. McCain

Feb. 1969	12-2 Myron Fischer
Nov. 1967	10-8 Bette Wallace
Nov. 1967	8-14 George R. Scherer
Nov. 1967	8-14 Myron Fischer
Dec. 1968	8-12 Don Latil Sr.
Nov. 1970	8-11 Jack H. Farmer
July 1965	8-8 Sidney Harold
Nov. 1974	8-8 Buzz Snyder
Aug. 1970	8-4 Jack H. Farmer
Oct. 1976	8-4 William Snyder

July 1977	56-8 O.L. Comish
July 1977	52-2 Ira J. Breaux
July 1977	51-8 Philip A. Robinson
Oct. 1974	47-8 John E. Dakin Jr.
July 1977	46-0 James T. Brady
	46-0 Mrs. Pauline G. Rohm
	46-0 Johnny Ledet Jr.
	45-12 Joseph Vitano
	45-8 Nick Martinovich
	45-0 Patricia A. Santolucito

Feb. 1976	
Dec. 1974	
Feb. 1976	
April 1977	
April 1978	
Jan. 1975	
Nov. 1974	
Mar. 1974	
March 1973	
Oct. 1972	

July 1972	
March 1976	
July 1973	
Aug. 1967	
July 1971	
May 1975	
June 1978	
May 1970	
July 1970	
Aug. 1975	

POMPANO

RAINBOW RUNNER

REDFISH



"The best way to be prepared for a potential record catch is to carry a copy of the official application form in your tackle box. . . it saves time on filing and ensures accuracy." —Dan Hardesty



"And who knows. . . as long as bait is in the water it's possible to meet up with that once-in-a-lifetime record-breaker!"

SAILFISH

96-0	John Lauricella	Oct. 1953
85-0	Arnold D. Domin	July 1965
84-4	Grant A. Rodriguez Jr.	May 1975
84-4	W. McKeall O'Neil Jr.	June 1974
82-2	Frank Tutzauer	June 1971
80-0	Dennis L. Good	Oct. 1967
78-9	Dr. Jerry R. Smith	June 1968
78-0	Don Locasio	July 1971
77-8	Tim Sebastian	July 1964
77-0	Mrs. Camille Cazadessus	Sept. 1955

SHEEPSHEAD

14-12	John N. Bourg	May 1970
14-4	Eugene Lefort Jr.	March 1971
12-4	James Summersgill Jr.	July 1972
12-2	Dudley J. Bourg	Oct. 1970
11-14	Mrs. Bruce Matherne	Feb. 1974
11-13	George P. Bourg	Aug. 1972
11-8	Mrs. Aubrey Bares	1955
11-8	Steve Troesch	Dec. 1956
11-6	Eugene Lefort Jr.	May 1971
10-15	Freddie J. Bourg	Dec. 1971

SNAPPER

74-0	Jim Meriwether	Oct. 1963
39-2	Mrs. Jesse B. Lane	May 1975
33-3	Allen M. Kahoe	June 1977
33-7	John L. DiMiceli, Jr.	July 1977
35-2	Paul C. Boyer	June 1977
35-0	Marvin E. Griffin	Aug. 1967
35-0	Bill Barnhill	Aug. 1971
35-0	Dr. Joseph A. Tusa	Aug. 1975
34-13	Alvin G. Kamm	June 1975
34-0	Gordon E. Tuma	July 1974

Speckled trout. . . redfish. . . blue marlin. . . tuna. . . largemouth bass. . . freshwater catfish. Louisiana keeps records on these and many more species. And competition for the "Ten At The Top" is always open!

SPADEFISH

9-4	Benny Avera	Dec. 1969
8-8	Schuyler Thibodeaux	April 1972
8-6	Wilson Couch	June 1972
8-3	Charles Sebastian	Aug. 1963
7-8	Hilary Blanchard	June 1976
7-5	Charles G. Donewar III	May 1976
7-4	Clyde Martin	Sept. 1976
6-15	Sam Sharp	July 1966
6-10	Robert J. Hote	Aug. 1966
6-10	Mrs. Dennis Visier	July 1976

SPANISH MACKEREL

10-9	Mike LeBlanc	Aug. 1972
9-1	James P. Antill	Aug. 1971
8-9	Warren Fisher Jr.	Oct. 1974
8-7	David J. Danos	Aug. 1976
8-4	Anthony C. D'Antonio	Nov. 1970
8-2	Mrs. Earlie Lefort	July 1975
8-1	Pat Matherne	Aug. 1973
8-0	Earl E. Wall	Aug. 1973
7-12	Addis McDonald	Sept. 1969
7-9	Danny John Smith	June 1975

SEARFISH

78-0	Larry Bulot	July 1964
27-15	Stephanie Slatten	July 1974
20-4	Mrs. Guy C. Billups Jr.	1969
17-8	Barry Barger	Aug. 1977
7-8	Kyle T. Marks	June 1977

SPECKLED TROUT

12-6	Leon Mattes	May 1950
10-12	Randolph D. Green	Aug. 1970
10-0	David G. Guccola	May 1974
9-14	James L. LeMay	April 1970
9-14	Edward J. Goodwin Jr.	May 1977
9-12	John W. Burns	March 1968
9-12	Anthony J. Bianca	Aug. 1970
9-11	Nicholas J. Dimailo Sr.	May 1975
9-8	Richard F. Muller Jr.	June 1970
9-4	Joseph E. Frey	April 1967

TARPON

206-0	Johnny A. Guidry	July 1973
200-0	Joe Schouest Jr.	Sept. 1977
198-8	Oswald Frey	Sept. 1951
198-0	Dr. Lloyd G. VanGetten Jr.	Sept. 1977
195-0	Schuyler Thibodeaux	Sept. 1973
192-8	Carlos B. Harvey	June 1973
189-4	Lance Schouest	Oct. 1976
188-12	Carl Schmidt	Aug. 1971
188-8	Ray Coker	Aug. 1974
187-4	John J. Jackson III	Oct. 1977

TRIPLETAIL

39-8	Mrs. Jimmy Toups	July 1959
33-12	Mrs. Mary G. Blackmon	Aug. 1970
33-12	Jeff Toups	July 1973
33-0	Bob Moran	June 1963
32-0	Jimmy Toups	July 1970
29-0	Mrs. Jimmy Toups	July 1970
28-8	Lawrence Federico, Jr.	Aug. 1971
26-8	Mrs. Jimmy Toups	July 1970
25-4	Mrs. Clavena Cognevich	Aug. 1970
23-12	Dennis Dimak	Aug. 1964

WAHOO

139-4	Myron J. Fischer	April 1976
124-8	Salvadore Perino Jr.	May 1974
110-4	Erin Burks	May 1976
110-0	Mrs. Homer J. Moore Jr.	1964
108-4	Edison Chouet	May 1977
103-0	William H. Barrett Jr.	July 1973
101-8	H.D. Bacon IV	Aug. 1977
97-0	Mrs. Merle Couch	April 1978
96-0	Alfred P. Flores	Aug. 1977
95-6	H.L. Herrin	April 1977

WHITE MARLIN

134-0	Dennis J. Good	July 1967
110-8	George M. Snelling III	May 1968
103-4	Sidney Gonsoulin	Aug. 1973
103-0	Ms. Al R. Childress Jr.	May 1967
102-6	Chalun O. Perez Jr.	July 1977
100-0	William L. Manning	July 1966
99-8	Harley B. Howcott	July 1967
98-0	Dr. John Chadwick	Oct. 1969
95-8	Mrs. Mary Smith	May 1964
94-8	DeWitt Rackley	Oct. 1967

WHITE TROUT

11-0	Donald H. Marion	Sept. 1973
10-8	James Gomez	Jan. 1973
9-13	Ferdinand Von Behren III	Jan. 1976
8-8	Martin Vinet	May 1977
8-4	Dale Schlottman	Aug. 1975
7-10	Franklin V. Endom Jr.	Feb. 1975
7-4	Jimmy Hill	March 1975
7-1	Lucas J. Giordano	June 1974
7-1	Dan Mandet	Aug. 1975
6-12	Eddie Elermann	July 1974

YELLOWFIN TUNA

201-8	Alvin E. DuVerney	June 1971
199-8	William A. Goad	July 1969
198-9	Mrs. Judi Burrus	June 1977
196-8	Guy C. Billups Jr.	May 1966
196-0	Clyde V. Hawk	June 1968
195-4	Henry F. Page, Jr.	July 1973
182-12	Tim Stroke	June 1976
181-0	Richard H. Braud	June 1966
181-0	Capt. Tom Holliday	May 1975
180-0	Clyde V. Hawk	June 1966

A man in a green jacket and hat is aiming a shotgun in a forest. The background is a bright, hazy area, possibly a body of water or a clearing, surrounded by trees. The text "warm weather hunting" is overlaid in a large, stylized font at the top.

warm weather hunting

By McFadden Duffy
Photography By Lloyd Poissenot

If a guy in the Deep South waited until the weather was crisp and cool before he went hunting, he would be passing up some of the most productive weeks of the entire hunting season.

We're talking about doves, teal, and squirrels for the most part, but you can toss in rails and gallinules if you live in South Louisiana. A good part of the season for those game birds comes in September and October when chances are warm days will outnumber cool ones.

This is particularly true when it comes to hunting doves. The most recent dove survey conducted by the Game Division's research section revealed that over a million doves of the total 1.6 million birds bagged by Louisiana hunters last season were taken during the first segments in both north and south zones.

While it is true the same survey showed hunter interest in doves dropped during the second and third segments of the dove season in the north zone and during the second portion of the season in the south zone, those fine game birds wouldn't have been as plentiful if hunters had waited.

Sufficient biological data exists to substantiate the statement that most of the doves bagged during September and October would have migrated out of Louisiana and not been available if the hunting season had been postponed until later.

The same holds true for teal. Those small ducks that provide such big sport are early migrants. They begin arriving in Louisiana in August. By September, the full migration of millions of bluewinged teal is underway. Most teal are spending the winter in Mexico, Central and South America by the time the major duck migration gets underway.

If teal were not harvested during September season for these ducks alone, chances are that the total teal population would receive little hunting pressure in this country. To a fixed degree, this neglect would represent underharvest of an available and renewable wildlife resource.

Hunter opportunity would be greatly restricted in the squirrel season was delayed until relatively cold weather. With an October opening of the season, the states squirrel populations provide excellent sport for a vast number of Louisiana hunters. Hunter interest shifts to other species of game later in the fall and winter, so the October opening of the squirrel season is not only logical but desired by most hunters.

By and large, these warm weather seasons provide hunter opportunity at a time when those wildlife populations are at peaks. They are logical seasons. Most hunters are eager for the first seasons to open and they are well aware that some game species can't be stockpiled until the weather is ideal as it is in the mid-fall. This is especially true of dove and teal ducks.

Getting the most out of warm weather hunts without undue physical hardship simply means being sensible. It means dressing and taking along only necessary gear. Too many hunters overdress during warm weather hunting. Being uncomfortable can detract from the fun of being afield after doves in September. A good teal hunt calls for only minimal and basic equipment. It isn't an Arctic expedition. And the more experience a squirrel hunter acquires, the less he carries into the woods. A heck of a lot of heavy ammo is carted into the woods and out of the woods each season. Squirrel hunters should keep in mind that a quiet October morning after bushytail isn't the Battle of the Bulge.

Here are some tips that might come in handy for warm weather hunters:

Late summer/early fall dove fields can be downright hot. It's true that folks going afield in September and October can detect signs that a change in seasons is on tap. Certain berries begin to ripen and the leaves on some trees take on a yellow tinge, a prelude to autumn color. But summer still holds the Deep South in a tight grip and the afternoon sun can be brassy and hot.

When it comes to clothing, camouflage pants, shirts, and caps are popular. As are camouflage jumpsuits. A growing number of

dove hunters feel that plain khaki is sufficient. They operate on the principle that a motionless person at the base of a tree, or stationed by a bale of hay or against a background of standing corn or bushes along a fence, is hard to detect.

There is a growing number of hunters who want to be seen by fellow hunters. Dove hunting is a companionable sport and it takes quite a few hunters to properly work large fields. In some cases, good hunting areas get crowded in a hurry. Most hunters like others to know exactly where they are. The important thing is to dress comfortably. The afternoons are long.

This precludes those unpleasant situations where you might shoot at someone's birds, or another hunter might shoot "your bird".

Choice of shotguns and chokes is strictly a matter of preference. There's no need to go into that here. It is important to have plenty of shells. There are few hunters who will dispute the statement that dove hunting calls for a lot of shells.

There are two ways that shells can be carried easily. Some persons prefer the conventional shell bucket, a large one of the type associated with duck hunting. In addition to several boxes of shells, it will also have space for a sandwich, sunglasses, and any other necessary small items.

The shell bucket—a large one—also makes a good stool upon which to sit during those lulls in shooting. They are as comfortable as the folding canvas and aluminum stools that are becoming increasingly popular.

Keep in mind that the folding stools are also obtainable with big zipper pockets. Those pockets will easily carry four boxes of shells. There is also an additional pocket for birds. Actually, those stools were designed primarily for dove hunters.

Water is a must in September dove shooting. It's a good idea any time of the season, but will be especially appreciated in warm weather hunting. Those half gallon plastic bottles of water that can be obtained in most large grocery stores do nicely. Expensive canteens aren't necessary. A one-time purchase can solve the problem inexpensively. The plastic jug can be filled with tap water after the first hunt.

So, in dove hunting on those warm afternoons the basic items are gun, shells, water and something to sit on. The shell bucket or a pocket in the folding stool should contain a lightweight slicker or raincoat. Summer showers don't last long and some sort of rain gear will prevent a hasty dash back to shelter in a car or pickup truck.

Hunting teal is strictly warm weather sport. There's no chance of even a cool front in Louisiana during September. Consequently, teal hunters should address themselves to basics—pirogue (duck boat), gun, shells, decoys, and camouflage.

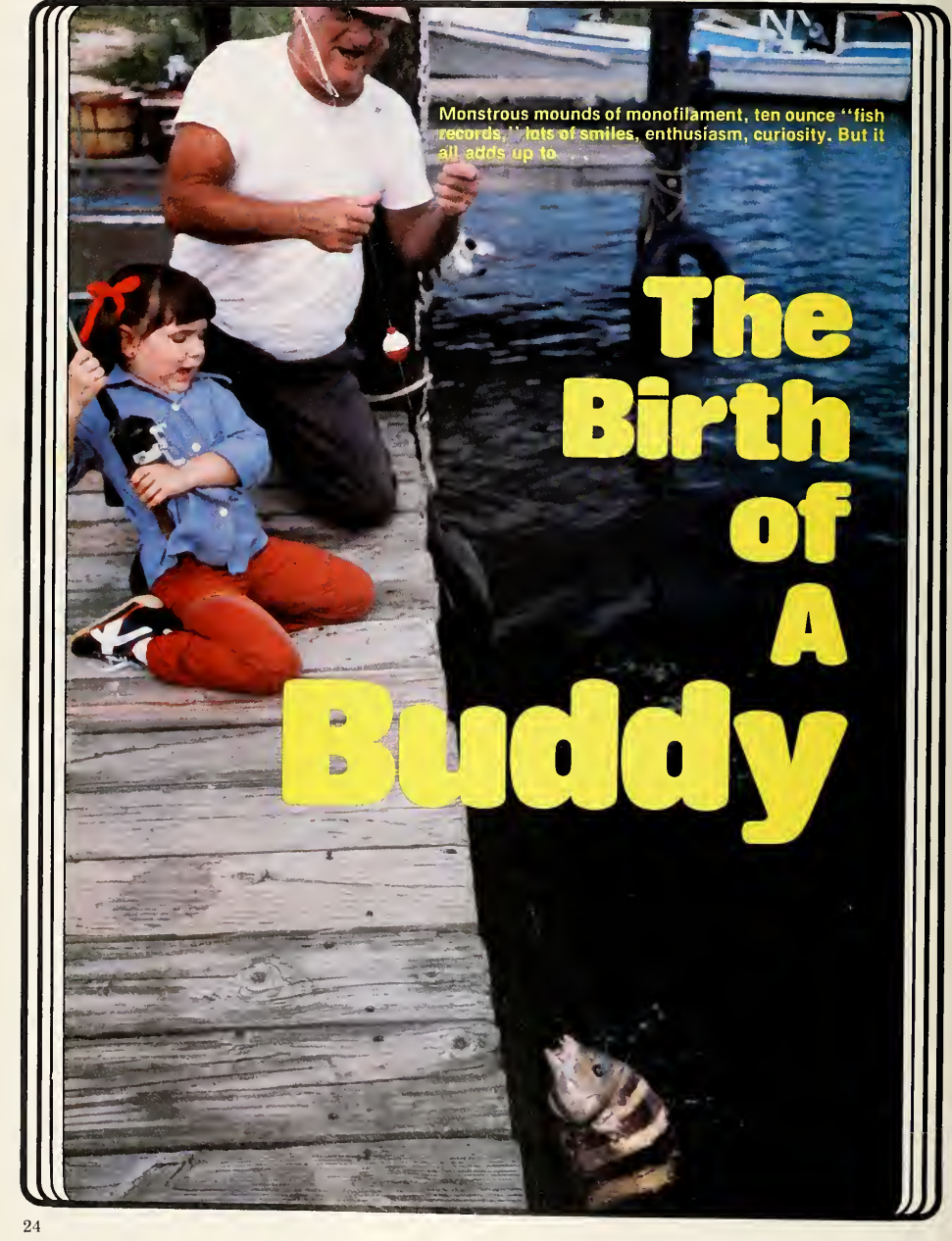
Although camouflage isn't vitally necessary in dove hunting, it is a must in teal hunting. Waterfowlers after teal should observe all rules of concealment and camouflage. Camouflage suits, caps and rain gear can mean the difference between decoying teal or causing them to avoid a blind.

Suitable clothing is available in lightweight fabrics. Hunters who dress comfortably for teal hunts are more relaxed than those who wear clothing better suited to waterfowling during the regular season.

Paddling a duck boat on warm days can be strenuous. It's wise to take along a water jug. The same one that serves well during dove shoots can be taken into a blind when teal hunting. There's a good rule that will serve well: travel light for teal.

Squirrel hunting should be as casual as taking a walk in the woods. Most hunters find a game bag or game vest is better than a coat. It can get warm in the woods during October. Being lightly clothed is easier than carrying excessive clothing.

These are simple tips for warm weather hunters. Don't carry too much gear and don't work too hard at hunting. You'll enjoy it more! 



Monstrous mounds of monofilament, ten ounce "fish records," lots of smiles, enthusiasm, curiosity. But it all adds up to

The Birth of A Buddy

By Julia Murchison McSherry
Photography by Lloyd Polissenot

"This is not exactly my idea of a fun way to spend my Saturday, one of my two precious days to myself," I thought aloud, slamming the alarm shut and looking at the clock. 5:00 a.m. What have I gotten into now!

There's nothing I like better than getting up early in anticipation of a sure-fire successful fishing trip, or even an average one on a sunny spring day. But to take along three young children seemed a bit more than I was ready to handle. I envisioned large monstrous spider tangles of monofilament. Rocks thrown in water. Impatience. Fish hooks in little fingers.

But. . . I had promised Jeff and Claiborne, five-year old twins, and their seven-year old sister, Stuart, that I'd walk with them down to their daddy's farm pond to catch some bream. I had doubts about their interest and fish catching abilities, but my misgivings began to give way quickly as I saw three happy, excited faces eager to get underway.

Much to my surprise, they had gear packed and were ready to go, having followed carefully my instructions of the night before. They carried their own tackle the short distance to the pond and could hardly wait to get their lines wet. Within minutes we were all sitting on the pier, dangling our feet over the side and intensely observing three corks.

I gazed at the youngsters with wonder—I saw curiosity, excitement, an eagerness to learn something new, an awareness. I heard shrills of glee when the first cork went under. I watched three faces light up every time a new bluegill was added to the stringer. Suddenly, a realization. . . there's a lot more to fishing than just catching fish.

Ever been fishin' all alone or with a friend and realize somethin's missin', like some minor part of your angling experience could be improved? Got a young child at home who's often volunteered to go with you but you just haven't taken the time?

If you want to teach and yet learn, give and receive many times over in return, take the little folk with you. You'll be pleasantly amazed, as I was with my three young friends, at their angling abilities, willingness to learn, and interest. You could even end up with a permanent fishing buddy!

GETTING STARTED

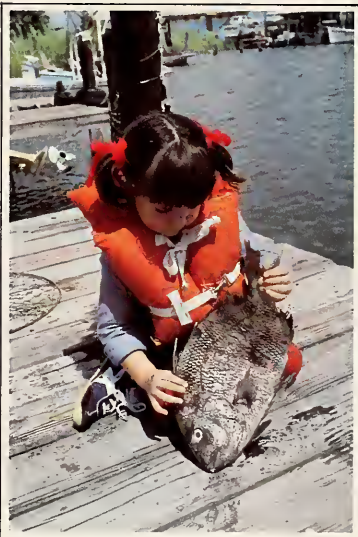
One ideal way to start your youngster fishing is to outfit him with a cane pole rig. This simple device has been around just about as long as civilization. Since ancient times, man could break off a stick, tie on a piece of string, fashion a home-made hook, attach live bait, and catch supper. So it is an appealing, yet simple, method any child can handle.

Nothing is more exciting to a kid than watching the tip of a cane pole bounce up and down as a big bull bream sucks the cork under. This is the easiest fish in the world to catch and it is guaranteed to keep a cork bobbing. Cane pole angling has started more children on the road to becoming lifelong fishermen than any other kind, and its charm does not diminish as a youngster leaves childhood.

Crappie (white perch or sac-a-lait) also offer great sport for children on cane pole or light spinning tackle. The good thing about this species, as well as bluegill, is that they are easy to catch, put up a dogged fight, are abundant in farm ponds and lakes throughout Louisiana, and are usually caught in great numbers.



Kids usually want to learn everything they can about fishing—they want to bait their own hooks, play their own fish, and handle their own catch. Give them free rein to learn. . . because they pick up habits and hobbies at an early age.



But bream and crappie are not the only two fish a youngster can handle—kids are just as capable of going after bass as panfish. All they need is a little more specialized equipment and a bit of extra instruction. And all you need is a little extra patience.

Nash Roberts III, professional bass angler from New Orleans and father of two, emphatically insists that young children are capable of learning fishing techniques and can even be ready to chase the wily bass by age four. His children, ages three and five, have been fishing with him since they were old enough to hold a rod.

Roberts says there are two main things to remember when attempting to convert your youngsters into enthusiastic bass anglers. One is to show the child how to use the rod and reel *before* you go to the lake.

"Get out in the backyard, demonstrate how the reel operates, then practice together throw-and-release patterns with a casting plug," he explains. "Familiarity is a big key. Have the child fully acquainted with the equipment before you set out and he will feel at ease by the time you arrive at your favorite bass hotspot."

The second point, he says, is to assume the attitude that you are taking *them* fishing... not yourself. You can't expect a day of lines tangled in trees, backlash, hooks caught on life jackets, and other incidents if you're in the wrong frame of mind or not prepared. You can go fishing anytime, but when you take little folks you've got to concentrate solely on their activities because they need your help, enthusiasm, and full attention to keep them interested.

"There's no use going with the idea that you're gonna do some serious fishing when the kids get bored," Nash adds. "Because they'll probably start skipping rocks right over your spot that just produced five largemouth. You've got to take it all in stride."

ABOUT THE EQUIPMENT

If you plan to take your child fishing regularly, it is a good idea to buy him his own tackle—in just his size. Large rods and reels fashioned for adults are too cumbersome and often too difficult for kids to handle.

The best rod and reel for starting out is a small spincast, fitted to size. Kids can easily handle the pushbutton. And you'll save time not having to worry about backlash and knots. Buy a moderately-priced reliable rig, not too cheap (or it won't last) yet not so costly you'll worry about breakage. A small tackle box with a modest selection of lures is an excellent birthday gift. It is also a valuable tool for teaching your child how to choose baits himself, as well as responsibility for personal possessions. In fact, make your son or daughter responsible for all his own fishing gear.

In addition to freshwater fishing, saltwater angling also offers much potential to children. A young 'un hauling in a croaker from the deep or wrestling a large sheepshead or drum onto a pier is a sight to see. Many deepsea fishermen take their entire families to the offshore rigs regularly. You'd be surprised how fast kids jump at the chance to catch red snapper, trout, and other deepwater species. To children, fishing is the most fun when the fish are biting... and in saltwater that's most of the time!

It is important to remember that to a kid... a fish is a fish, regardless of size. Even tiny ones are "world records." For that reason, adults who teach children to fish will instill greater love for the sport if they compliment little skills and little fish.



Handling a reel is tough for a youngster to master... so try to be really patient when you have to untangle backlashes.





Keep in mind one thing—the child you're teaching to fish today could someday grow up to be your best fishing buddy. . . and that's worth all the time and effort you put into it.



A LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Fishing with your child or favorite young person not only provides many hours of enjoyment, companionship, and lots of fish, it can be a rewarding, long-range learning experience. It is the perfect opportunity for you to teach responsibility, ownership, and care of personal equipment. Children pick up habits and hobbies at a young age. If they do it right young, they will benefit as they grow. In fishing, like any sport, a child can learn to achieve self-confidence as a result.

Children can also learn to appreciate the outdoors at an early age. They eagerly absorb tidbits about biology, fish and animal habits, and the food chain. They learn conservation, wildlife regulations, and the reasons for creel limits. They discover water and boating safety and find out how to handle objects with potential danger—such as fish hooks. They pick up patience from the patient teacher.



TIPS ON WHAT TO TEACH

Safety is of prime importance. The need for life jackets must be explained and stressed (life preservers should be worn by youngsters even if they can swim, but especially if they can't). Children should know about water—how to swim, how not to fall in. Teach them that hooks should never be played with, never left around the house, and used only at the lake or pond immediately prior to fishing. Teach them not to leave hooks around the boat or pier.

Teach them fishing techniques. Show them where to fish and explain why you chose a particular spot. Explain that fish live near structure, and that is why you fish in the middle of a brush and log pile, near a shoreline, or in a weed pocket. Tell why you choose particular baits, how they work and how you tie them on with certain knots. And if they are old enough, teach them to bait their own hooks and tie on their own lures. Talk to your kids while you're fishing! To hold the interest of small fry, which can sometimes be quite taxing, try playing games, changing baits, and telling fish stories.

Kids are naturally curious. . . feed their thirst for knowledge. Let them play in the live well, touch the fish, inspect them closely, see the colors, feel the scales. Show them the fins, the gills. Explain how they feed. Play the old my-fish-is-bigger-than-your-fish game with them. And let your children help you clean the fish you catch so they can understand the overall process.

But one word of note. If you do a really good job at teaching your kid to fish, you'd better prepare yourself for something you thought died out with high-button shoes. . . a kid who not only looks at you as his dad, but as his *best fishing buddy!*

Special Young People's Feature

By Madison R. Powell

THE MIGHTY TIDES!

In every country the moon keeps ever the rule of alliance
with the sea which it once for all has agreed upon."

Bede

There is not one drop of water in the ocean, not even in the deepest part of the abyss, that does not respond to the mysterious forces that create the tide. No other force that affects the sea is so strong.

In one small bay on the east coast of the United States, for example, *two billion tons* of water are carried by the tidal current twice each day. Into the whole Bay of Fundy, *100 billion tons* of water move with the tides!

Compared with the tide, wind-created waves are surface movements which are felt, at the most, no more than a hundred fathoms below the surface.

RESPONSE TO THE "PULL" OF THE MOON

The tides are a response of the waters of the ocean to the gravitational "pull" of the moon and the more distant sun. Folks who live along the coast know that the moon, far more

than the sun, controls the tides. Why? Why shouldn't the sun, with a mass 27 million times that of the moon, have greater influence? Well, it is because in the mechanics of the universe, nearness counts far more than distant mass, and when all the mathematical calculations have been made we find that the moon's power over the tides is more than twice that of the sun.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

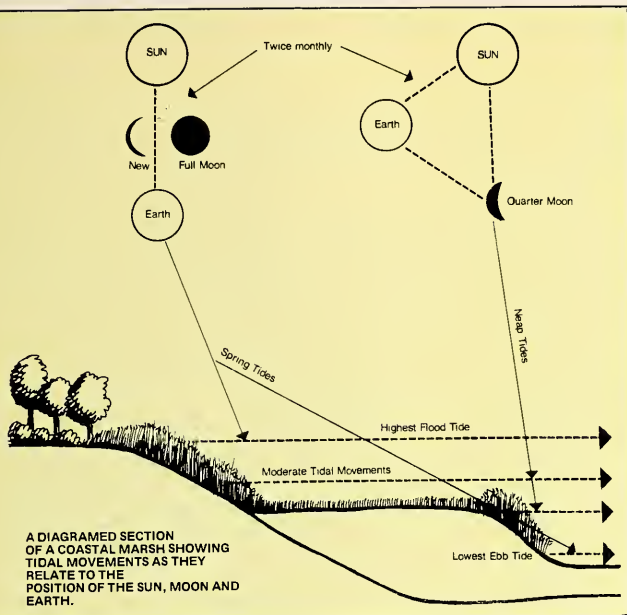
Twice each month when the moon is a mere thread of silver in the sky, we have the strongest tidal movements . . . the highest flood tides and lowest ebb tides of the lunar month. These are called the *spring* tides. At these times the sun, moon, and earth are directly in line and the pull of the two heavenly bodies is added together to bring the water on the beaches and draw a brimming tide into the harbors so that boats float high beside their wharfs.

Likewise, twice each month at the

quarters of the moon, when the sun, moon, and earth lie at the apexes of a triangle and the pull of the sun and moon are opposed, we have the moderate tidal movements called *neap* tides. At this time the difference between high and low water is less than at any other time during the month. A simple way to explain or remember tidal rhythm is to think of it as twice-daily waves that move like the hour hand of a clock about a central point in mid-ocean. These waves run 12 hours and 25 minutes apart—their crests are high tides and the troughs are low tides.

TIDES MORE COMPLICATED

Of course, the above explanation is over-simplification. Tides are enormously more complicated than all this would suggest. The influence of sun and moon is constantly changing with the phases of the moon, with the distance of moon and sun from earth,



and with the position of each to the north or south of the equator.

The declination of the moon (its position north or south of the equator) is one of the most important factors affecting tides. As the moon revolves around the earth from east to west, it also has a north-south movement. The declination is the distance in degrees of latitude that the moon is north or south of the equator. The plane of the moon's orbit is not in the same plane as the equator; therefore, the declination of the moon is constantly changing. In the moon's fortnightly change from maximum northerly to maximum southerly declination, the differences between morning and afternoon tides are greatest near the times the moon is over the equator.

THE POWER OF OSCILLATION

Tides are further complicated by the fact that every body of water, whether natural or artificial, has its own period

of oscillation. Disturb its waters and they will move with a seesaw or rocking motion with the most pronounced movement at the ends of the container and the least motion at the center. The truth of the matter is that local topography is all-important in determining the features that, to our minds, make "the tide."

The attractive force of the heavenly bodies sets the water in motion, but how, and how far, and how strongly it will rise depend on such things as the slope of the bottom, the depth of the channel, or the width of a bay's entrance.

For example, when you spend a holiday or weekend at Grand Isle, the ebbing and flowing of the tide may not leave much of an impression on your mind because in the great inland sea of the Atlantic—the Gulf of Mexico—the tidal rise is but a slight movement of no more than a foot or two. Likewise, tides for Lake Borgne and Lake Pontchartrain are still more difficult to notice.

These tides are long, deliberate undulations. . . one rise and one fall in the lunar day of 24 hours plus 50 minutes.

But by contrast, if you ever have the chance to spend the summer on the Gulf of Maine around the Bay of Fundy, the rise and fall of the tide would be something you would never forget. *You would have to accommodate your boating and swimming activities to a tide that rises and falls 40 to 50 feet a day!*

Although all earth lies under the same moon and sun, the above contrast shows how much the topography, or shape of a basin in certain areas, affects the tide.

TIDES AFFECT PEOPLE AND FISH

The lives of people who live along the coast are affected daily by the tides. And of even greater importance is the effect the rise and fall of the tide has on the life of seafood. The tidal flooding of the coastal marshes—the estuaries—is a vital factor that accounts for the fertility that enables us to enjoy the fishing and fine seafood that we sometimes take for granted.

BUT THE TIDES GROW WEAKER

Let me leave you with the following fact—the tides are growing weaker and weaker. Tidal friction is constantly pushing the moon further and further away. As the moon recedes, it will have less power over the tides and it will also take the moon longer to complete its orbit around the earth. When finally the length of the day and month coincide, the moon will no longer rotate relatively to the earth and there will be no longer be lunar tides.

If the history of the earth's tides should one day be written by some observer of the universe, it would no doubt be said that they reached their greatest grandeur and power in the younger days of the earth, and that they slowly grew feebler and less imposing until one day they ceased to be.

As with all that is earthly, their days are numbered. All this, of course, will require time on a scale the mind finds difficult to conceive. . . and before it happens, it is quite probable that the human race will have vanished from the earth. 



"WE GET LETTERS..."

Dear Editor:

Recently I was reading the Louisiana Conservationist (Jan.-Feb., 1977) and there was an article about a man who caught a buffalo fish with a rod and reel attached. I think you might be interested in what happened to me.

On opening day of duck season last year, I was retrieving some ducks that had floated out into a big lagoon. I came upon a ring-necked duck and tried to put it in my pirogue. I pulled him about a foot out of the water but no more. I realized that there was a fishing line attached to his bill.

Looking over the duck I realized it had been dead for some time. Anyway, I pulled on the line and to my astonishment out of the water came a spinning rod with a Mitchell 300 attached. I have several witnesses to this—so it is no duck story.

Tought you might like to use this in your great magazine.

Sincerely,
Paul Plomteaux
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Editor:

I just finished reading the second quarter issue of the Louisiana Conservationist and I was especially entertained by the story on crabs written by McFadden Duffy.

Which brings me to my question—if you'll answer it.

I know you writers have some really good hunting and fishing spots you don't tell your readers about. And it's only fair—you have to have a place to go too. But where in the world did you guys go crabbing to catch as many in a single net as shown in the picture on Page 5? Or is the picture a set-up?

I'm just dying to hear your answer!

Yours truly,
J.L. Mongaleer
Ocean Springs, Mississippi

You're right. . . we writers have a few spots we keep to ourselves. We also have a few photographic techniques we use to add "interest" to a picture here and there. And. . . we don't tell about either. Let's just say the crabs were running real good when we took that particular photo.'—Ed.

P.S. I now use the rod and reel!

Dear Editor:

When I moved here from Boston I subscribed to your magazine because I thought it would be about conservation. But I see now that all you emphasize is killing fish and birds and mammals. And I just heard that you're planning another "season" to kill alligators, which are listed as Endangered Species all over the world!

I don't call that conservation. So take me off your list!

Willard Hamilton Smythe
An ex-subscriber
New Orleans, Louisiana

As you requested, your name is removed. And that is unfortunate. . . because now you'll probably never learn that the alligator is not on the Endangered List in southwest Louisiana, and you'll probably never learn the real meaning of "conservation," and you'll probably never get to see it applied in Louisiana 365 days a year. But have a nice day!—Ed.

Dear Editor:

I've got a complaint!

Every year when deer season starts I spend days trying to figure out *what* areas I can hunt in even after I read the danged hunting pamphlet. The thing is awfully confusing because of the way the areas read—"US Hwy 64 to junction at Thompson Creek on the south to the L&N Railroad on the north and east to Bullfeathers Bend."

Why in the heck can't you people open whole parishes? Or better yet, why don't you just open the whole state to deer like you do for the rest of the game we hunt? Trying to find Bullfeathers Bend if you're not familiar with it is like trying to get your hunting buddies to date your mother-in-law!

Can anything be done to simplify this mess?

Sincerely,
Parker Evans
Jonesville, Louisiana

Don't feel like the Lone Ranger—you're not the first hunter who has asked this question. But by way of explanation, different seasons must be set in different areas because there are differences in deer herds caused by differences in habitat, herd prosperity, and the degree of protection we give to individual herds. Even differences in breeding times require setting of separate seasons.

While it may not seem so to you, there have been steps taken to simplify the "mess" of defining hunting areas. Ten years ago there were 16 hunting areas for whitetails in Louisiana—today there are only six. Much progress has been made toward moving to as few separate areas as possible while still safeguarding the welfare of the deer herds.

As far as boundary lines are concerned, parish lines once were used. But parish lines often take off straight through a stand of trees. . . and that's hard to follow. So recognizable boundaries—rivers, roads, railroads—are used now.

I assure you that while the whole thing might appear complicated, it probably is the best method yet conceived for both the hunter and the herd.—Ed.

Pie's Potpourri

By Marian "Pie" Pendley

COLD REDFISH MOLD

- 2 pounds redfish
- 1 sliced onion
- ½ green pepper, minced
- 2 celery stalks, minced
- 1 tsp. green onion tops, minced
- 1 tsp. parsley, minced
- ½ lemon (juice)
- ½ tsp. mustard
- ½ tsp. Worcestershire

Boil redfish in just enough water to cover in which sliced onions, salt and pepper have been added. Let boil about 15 minutes. Remove bones and skin. Add the following ingredients: Minced green pepper, celery, green onions, and parsley. Then season with lemon juice, mustard, and Worcestershire. Add almost all of the liquid in which fish was boiled, place in mold or pan to congeal. Garnish and serve with mayonnaise.

CRABMEAT CANAPE

- 2 packages Philadelphia Cream Cheese
- 1 medium onion, minced
- ½ pound crabmeat, picked clean
- Salt, pepper and Tabasco to taste
- 3 tablespoons mayonnaise

Mix cream cheese and mayonnaise together, adding other ingredients with crabmeat last. Place in refrigerator to blend flavors. Serve in crystal bowl surrounded with crackers or chips.



SECRETS TO BOILING SEAFOOD

In the past few months the *Louisiana Conservationist* has received numerous requests for the "proper" method to use when boiling crawfish, crabs, and shrimp. And while it might appear simple, there is a lot more to boiled seafood than just boiling water. . . the right seasonings, seasoning blending, preparation, and cooking time are all equally important.

Here are some of the "secrets" that ensure good seafoods consistently:

CRABS—it is not necessary to wash crabs before you boil them. It is necessary, however, to drop them into boiling water alive. Don't cook a dead crab unless you caught it yourself and it died from the cold water in the ice chest!

SHRIMP—it is not necessary to de-head shrimp to boil them, but whether de-headed or not they should be washed in cool water before they are cooked. Shrimp can be de-headed, frozen, and boiled at a later date if properly frozen.

CRAWFISH—it is essential you "purge" crawfish in a strong salt solution for at least 15 minutes before boiling them. They should also be washed several times in clear water after purging. Crawfish should not be boiled after they have been frozen because they lost texture and flavor. Frozen crawfish, however, are good used in gumbo, stew, etouffee, and other dishes.

HOW TO BOIL:

- Into an appropriate pot add—
- 5 gallons of water
- 3 finely-chopped onions
- 1 whole peeled garlic
- 3 thinly-sliced lemons
- ½ cup chopped celery
- 6 bay leaves
- 1 bottle liquid Crab Boil
- Salt to taste (ice cream salt best)*

Bring this mixture to a rapid boil and cover the pot with the lid for about 10 minutes until all the seasonings are "cooked" together. Then all seafood, wait for the water to return to a rapid boil, and cook for the allotted time. Crawfish should be boiled 5 minutes. . . shrimp should be boiled 4 minutes. . . and crabs should be boiled 12 minutes. Boiling longer than this is *overcooking*!

After the cooking period, remove the pot from the burner and allow the seafood to "soak" so that seasonings can be absorbed. For mild flavor, soak 15 minutes. For heavier flavor, soak 30 to 45 minutes.

Seafoods tend to float on the surface after they are boiled. Adding two cups of iced water will sink the seafood into the mixture for better seasoning absorption. — Frank Davis

SHRIMP SALAD

- 1 pound cooked, chopped shrimp
- 2 sticks celery, chopped
- 1 hard boiled egg, finely chopped
- 1 teaspoon pickle relish
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- Salt and pepper to taste

Mix all ingredients together thoroughly and add seasoning to taste. Serve on lettuce leaves or use as stuffing for avocado halves. Serves 4 to 6.

